

time to talk about the possibility of, oh, my God, now they are in panic, some people are pointing this out, mindless, across-the-board cuts. First, let us jack up the military spending by 10 percent, then we will cut it by 3 percent and we might get back to putting something in the lock box. I doubt it. It is fuzzy math.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There being no further requests for morning hour debates, pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the House will stand in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 20 minutes a.m.) the House stood in recess until 10 a.m. today.

□ 0952

AFTER RECESS

The House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Goss) at 9 o'clock and 52 minutes a.m., thereby terminating the recess.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Due to the circumstances of today, the Chair calls the House to order at this time.

The prayer will be offered by the guest chaplain.

PRAYER

The Reverend Gerard Creedon, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, offered the following prayer:

God of peace and life, send Your spirit to heal our country; bring consolation to all injured in today's tragedy in New York and Washington. Protect us and help our leaders to lead us out of this moment of crisis to a new day of peace. Amen.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair, pursuant to clause 12 of rule I.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 53 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1003

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock and 3 minutes a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: O God, come to our assistance.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Yesterday we were stunned, angry and violated. Today, Lord, we stand strong and together. Yesterday

changed our world. Today we are changed.

We have humbly prayed to You, O Lord God of Heaven and Earth, yesterday and through the night. Now we turn to You for Your guidance and sense of eternal truths which built this Nation as we begin a new day of building security and peace through justice.

We mourn our dead and reach out with prayer and acts of compassion to all those families splattered with blood and exhausted by tears. Heal the wounded. Strengthen all civil servants, medical and religious leaders as they attempt to fill the gaping holes left in the fabric of our Nation.

Send forth Your Holy Spirit, Lord, upon all the Members of Congress, the President, and all government leaders across this Nation. Free them of fear, any prejudice whatsoever, remove all doubt and confusion from their minds. With clear insight which comes from You and You alone, reveal all that is unholy, and renew the desire of Your people to lives of deepening faith, unbounding commitment, and lasting freedom here where liberty has made her home.

We place our trust in You now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. The Speaker will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Due to the events of yesterday, the Chair wishes to announce that the joint meeting to receive the Honorable John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia, scheduled for today will not take place.

The Chair wishes to acknowledge, however, the presence of the Prime Minister here today, and extends, on behalf of the House, his appreciation for the solidarity of the Australian people and the presence of the Prime Minister today in this very difficult time. Thank you.

HOUSE SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, as you have directed, the House is convening now. We will stay in session from now until 11 o'clock where Members will have time for 1-minute speeches. At 11 o'clock this morning we will take a recess until 12:30 while the Chamber is cleared. Members of the body will be invited back to the Chamber at 12:30, at which time we will have a Member briefing on the floor that will last until 2 o'clock.

At 2 o'clock, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT) and I will call up by unanimous consent a joint resolution to condemn yesterday's terrorist acts. That resolution will be addressed by this body under that unanimous consent request with an understanding that we will continue to address it until each Member of this Chamber has had ample time to address this issue as he or she sees fit.

I want to thank all the Members of this body for their patience, their commitment, their understanding, and their resolve during this trying time. Let me assure you, Mr. Speaker, by the time the 435 Members of this body have spoken today, the world will have no doubt about who we are, what we will stand for, and what we will not stand for.

AMERICA SUFFERS TODAY

(Mr. GEPHARDT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, America, our blessed Nation, suffers today. Terribly. Terrorists sought to use fear as a weapon against every person in this Nation. They do not know America, and they do not know Americans. They think freedom is our vulnerability. It is our strength. We will need that strength in the days ahead. Throughout our proud history we have met every challenge, and we will meet this challenge.

Mr. Speaker, we are united in mourning for all of our fellow citizens who were injured and died. I have been so moved while watching television and seeing the heroism, the courage, the patriotism, the bravery, the goodness of our people trying to help one another, save one another, bind up our wounds, and find those who have been lost. Our hearts go out to every person, every family that has been touched by this awful tragedy, and to all the families at this very moment who are enduring an unspeakable, unimaginable horror in their lives.

In times of national tragedy, Americans have always come together, strengthened our resolve, and faced adversity squarely while giving aid and comfort to every victim, every family member, every relative, every person affected by the tragedy. On this occasion, we are once again showing the world what it means to be an American.